

CLAIMS

1. A process for preparing solidified maltitol and said process is comprising the following steps:
 - 5 a. turbulating a quantity A of powder of maltitol and a quantity B of a maltitol containing syrup at a temperature from 20°C and a second temperature wherein the second temperature is selected such that the maltitol powder is solid, and wherein quantity A is \geq quantity B, to obtain a granulated product,
 - 10 b. drying of granulated product,
 - c. reducing particle size of dried granulated product to obtain solidified maltitol,
2. A process according to claim 1 further comprising the step of recycling all or a portion of said solidified maltitol into step a) as powder of maltitol.
- 15 3. A process according to claim 1 or 2 characterised in that in step a) the powder of maltitol is turbulated with a gas, preferably nitrogen gas or air, more preferably air.
- 20 4. A process according to anyone of claims 1 to 3 characterised in that in step b) drying of coated product is carried out with a gas having a temperature from 20°C to a second temperature where the maltitol powder is still solid.
- 25 5. A process according to anyone of claims 1 to 4 characterised in that said process is taking place in a fluid bed.
6. A process according to anyone of claims 1 to 5 characterised in that the maltitol syrup is comprising a dry substance content of from 40% to 80% and maltitol content equal to or greater than 70% based on dry substance.

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7. A process according to anyone of claims 1 to 6 characterised in that temperature in step a) is from 50°C to second temperature where maltitol powder is still solid, preferably from 70°C to said second temperature more preferably from 80°C to said second temperature.

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8. A process according to anyone of claims 1 to 7 characterised in that content of maltitol of solid product of step c) is from 90 % w/w to 99.5% w/w based on dry substance, preferably from 92% w/w to 97% w/w based on dry substance, more preferably from 94% w/w to 96% w/w based on dry substance.

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9. A process according to anyone of claims 1 to 8 characterised in that said process is comprising the following steps:

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- a. loading powder of maltitol into fluid bed basket,
- b. having gas inlet temperature, preferably air inlet temeprature of from 80°C to melting range of maltitol, preferably from 90°C to 95°C,
- c. adding into the feeding basket of fluid bed a maltitol syrup with dry substance of 70%,
- d. spraying through nozzle said maltitol syrup onto powder of maltitol for obtaining granulated product,
- e. drying said coated product for obtaining a dried granulated product with a moisture content below 1%, preferably below 0.5%,
- f. milling of said dried granulated product for obtaining solidified maltitol,
- g. recycling a part or all of said solidified maltitol into step a) until obtaining in step f) solidified maltitol with a maltitol content from 95% to 98%, preferably from 95% to 97%, more preferably from 95.5% to 96.5%.

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10. Use of solidified maltitol obtainable according to the process of anyone of claim 1 to 9 in feed, food, pharma or cosmetic products.

11. Use according to claim 10 characterised in that food products are selected from the group consisting of bakery products, tablets, confectionery, chewing gum, and coated edible cores.
5. 12. Bakery product comprising flour, fat, sweetening agent and characterized in that sweetening agent is comprising from 25% to 100% solidified maltitol obtainable according to the process of anyone of claim 1 to 9.
- 10 13. Tablets comprising from 2% to 100% solidified maltitol obtainable according to the process of anyone of claims 1 to 9.